

## **QUALIFICATION FOR ADMISSION TO PRACTICE LAW IN CALIFORNIA THROUGH STUDY IN A LAW OFFICE OR JUDGE'S CHAMBERS**

The requirements for admission to practice law in California are contained in the *Rules Regulating Admission to Practice Law in California (Rules)*. The following is a summary of the requirements for qualifying for admission to practice law in California through study in a law office or judge's chambers. For the specific requirements, refer to Sections 2 and 3 of Rule VII of the *Rules*.

To be admitted to practice law in California, an applicant must comply with the requirements outlined in Rule II of the *Rules*, which include: 1) completion of the requisite pre-legal and legal education; 2) registration as a law student; 3) passage or exemption from the First-Year Law Students' Examination; 4) a positive moral character determination; 5) passage of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination; and, 6) passage of the California Bar Examination. Additionally, an applicant must not be certified by the State Department of Social Services as being in non-compliance with a court ordered child or family support obligation.

Applicants for admission must register as law students in accordance with Sections 1 and 2 of Rule V of the *Rules*. Transcripts indicating all pre-legal education completed must accompany the registration form so that compliance with the pre-legal requirements as indicated in Section 1, Rule VII of the *Rules* can be confirmed. Any law study completed prior to fulfilling the pre-legal education requirements will not be accepted.

Applicants intending to pursue their legal education through the law office/judge's chamber program, must file an initial report on the designated form within 30 days of the date the law office study commenced. Subsequent reports on the designated form and examinations must be submitted within 90 days after completion of each six-month study period.

A \$40.00 fee must accompany the Notice of Intent to Study in a Law Office or Judge's Chambers, which is the initial report. A fee of \$30.00 must accompany each semi-annual report submitted thereafter. All reports must include the Law Office Study Report cover sheet and must be submitted by certified mail with return receipt requested or delivered in person to either the Los Angeles or San Francisco Office of Admissions.

Applicants are qualified to take the First-Year Law Students' Examination after completing one year of law study. Certain applicants are exempt from the examination as specified in Section 11 Rule VIII of the *Rules*. Applicants required to take the First-Year Law Students' Examination, which includes students participating in the law office/judge's chambers program, who pass the examination within three consecutive administrations of first becoming eligible to take it, will receive credit for law study completed up to the time the examination is passed (calculated to the date the examination is administered rather than to the date the results are released). Applicants who pass it thereafter will only receive credit for one year of law study.

For further information, please contact the Los Angeles office of Admissions.